

because claims 21-32, 40, and 41 are not presently pending for consideration of patentability there is no requirement that they be in patentable form. Accordingly, Applicant submits that the Notice was issued in error and requests that this Notice be withdrawn and the Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 filed on November 8, 2004 be entered.

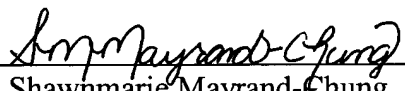
Additionally, Applicant request that no adverse patent term adjustment results from the USPTO's delay in entry of Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 filed on November 8, 2004. This Response is being filed within the one-month period without any requested extension of time.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number listed below if the Examiner believes such would be helpful in advancing the application to issue. If any additional fees are required for the filing of this paper, Applicants authorize the Commissioner to charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 08-1641.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 20, 2004

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